



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

June 10, 2008

S. 2982

Runaway and Homeless Youth Protection Act

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on the Judiciary
on May 22, 2008*

SUMMARY

S. 2982 would authorize the appropriation of \$183 million for 2009 and such sums as may be necessary for each year from 2010 through 2013 for programs providing services to runaway and homeless youth. In addition, the bill would authorize the appropriation of such sums as may be necessary to estimate the number and characteristics of runaway and homeless youth.

CBO estimates that implementing the bill would cost \$63 million in 2009 and \$772 million over the 2009-2013 period, assuming the appropriation of the necessary amounts. Enacting S. 2982 would not affect direct spending or revenues.

S. 2982 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA); any costs to local governments would be incurred voluntarily.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary impact of S. 2982 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 500 (education, training, employment, and social services).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					2009- 2013
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2013
CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION						
Basic Center Program and Other Activities						
Estimated Authorization Level	150	153	156	159	162	780
Estimated Outlays	51	125	147	152	155	630
Sexual Abuse Prevention Program						
Estimated Authorization Level	30	31	31	32	32	156
Estimated Outlays	10	25	29	30	31	125
National Homeless Youth Awareness Campaign						
Estimated Authorization Level	3	3	3	3	3	15
Estimated Outlays	1	3	3	3	3	13
Periodic Estimate of Youth Homelessness						
Estimated Authorization Level	4	0	0	0	0	4
Estimated Outlays	1	2	1	0	0	4
Total Changes						
Estimated Authorization Level	187	187	190	194	197	955
Estimated Outlays	63	155	180	185	189	772

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

For this estimate, CBO assumes that S. 2982 will be enacted near the end of fiscal year 2008, the amounts authorized for 2009 will be adjusted for inflation for the years 2010 through 2013, the authorized amounts will be appropriated by the beginning of each fiscal year, and outlays will follow historical spending patterns.

S. 2982 would authorize the appropriation of \$150 million for 2009 and such sums as may be necessary each year from 2010 to 2013 for the Basic Center Program, the Transitional Living Program, and other purposes. Those programs provide services such as outreach, crisis intervention, and temporary and long-term shelter to runaway and homeless youth. In 2008, \$96 million was appropriated for those activities. CBO estimates that implementing those programs would cost \$630 million over the 2009-2013 period, assuming appropriation of the estimated amounts, reflecting annual inflation adjustments after 2009.

The bill also would authorize the appropriation of \$30 million for 2009 and such sums as may be necessary each year from 2010 through 2013 for a program to prevent sexual abuse of homeless street youth. This program includes such services as treatment, counseling, and providing information. Fiscal year 2008 appropriations for this program are \$17 million. CBO estimates that implementing this program would cost \$125 million over the 2009-2013 period, assuming appropriation of the estimated amounts, reflecting annual inflation adjustments after 2009.

Additionally, the bill would authorize the appropriation of \$3 million for 2009 and such sums as may be necessary for each year from 2010 through 2013 for the National Homeless Youth Awareness Campaign. CBO estimates that implementing this program would cost \$13 million over the 2009-2013 period, assuming the availability of appropriated funds.

Finally, the bill would require the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) to report to the Congress on the numbers and characteristics of runaway and homeless youth within two years of the bill's enactment, and every five years after that. S. 2982 would authorize the appropriation of such sums as may be necessary for each year from 2009 through 2013 for this report. Based on information from HHS, CBO estimates that this provision would cost \$4 million over the 2009-2013 period, assuming the availability of appropriated funds.

ESTIMATED IMPACT ON STATE, LOCAL, AND TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS

S. 2982 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA. Funds authorized in the bill would benefit local governments that participate in grant programs that assist runaway and homeless youth. Any costs those governments incur to comply with performance standards authorized in the bill would be incurred voluntarily.

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